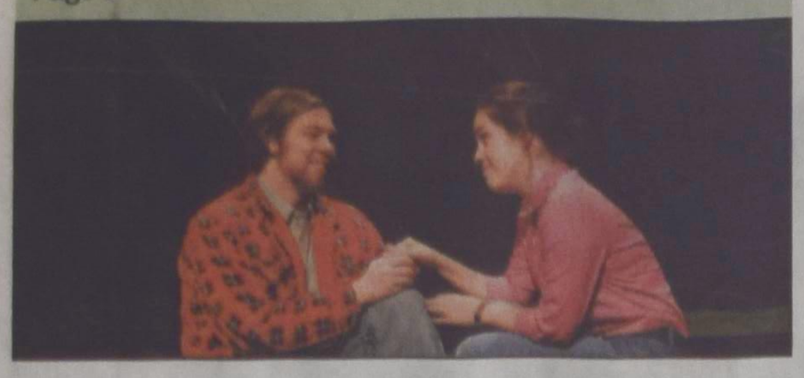
Mainstage Reflections
Page 5



Christmas Time Questions
Page 3

Senate Newspread
Page 6

THE CROWN

Redeemer's Student Voice Since 1983 | Volume 24, Issue 6 | December 5, 2007 | CROWN.REDEEMER.CA

REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LIBRARY
CROWN - REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
PER/LH/3/.C76
DEC 0 6 2007

ROYALS SWEEP

JEREMY PARSONS
EDITOR-IN-CHEIF

Before even beginning their quest for glory against the Calvin College Knights, the Royals Men's Hockey Team was first faced with the task of taking care of business in their own league. On Friday, November 23rd the men dealt a 10-0 blow to the NCHL's Brantford Canucks in league hockey. Following this confidence-builder, the Royals then suited up for their double-header that night against the Knights at Hamilton's Chedoke Arena. Despite the possibly problematic distance of the arena to campus, a great showing of Redeemerites managed to fill the stands as the red and white hit the ice.

Coming in to the annual series, Redeemer was at an evident disadvantage. Having lost every series since the glory days of 1993, the Royals had to break the pattern of losing. Adding on to their dim past, the Royals were faced with a team which played competitively in the NCAA'S Division III American College Hockey Association. In fact, they even became National Champions in 2004 over all other 114 American colleges in Division III hockey. With an annual budget three times larger than any of Redeemer's sports team resources piled in one, the Knight's seemed to have the support to give them the upper hand. Not to mention the fact that Calvin players skate at least four times per week, while the Royals are lucky to practice once every two weeks. Certainly, this was a story of David and Goliath.

As soon as the puck hit the ice for the opening faceoff, the presence of the home team's fans quickly became obvious. Cheers were heard above ice-level screams as the excitement of body-checking filled both players and spectators. Early on in the match, it was Redeemer who set the tone by surprising the heavy favourites. Jeremy Stevens [Limehouse, ON] scored first for Redeemer through the unwary screen of a defender's legs. The goal ignited a roar from fans ecstatic and astonished at the same time. The building was hopping and sort of shiver-inducing adrenalin rush flowed to keep fans elated. Their support was also stirred by the antics of the Royals' closet mascot, sported by an anonymous Redeemerite. It was not long after end-to-end chances by both teams, that Stevens notched another ringer; this time Calvin had to believe it.

During second period action, the Knights' rallied back to take two unanswered goals, effectively stifling Redeemer's boisterous crowd. After two periods of thrilling hockey the score was tied at two goals apiece. Not to be undone, the men picked up the pace in the third and countered with one of their own. Greg Dykxhoorn [London, ON] broke the tie during the middle of third period action with a goal deep in the Calvin zone. The Royals managed to hold on and clinch their first win against the Knights in 15 years. In the dying seconds, they were reassured by an empty net goal from the hat-trick hero of the night: Jeremy Stevens. The end result was almost unbelievable; a 4-2 nail-biter for Redeemer's famous underdogs.

The following day, the men circled the ice once again in their closing match against Calvin at the Carlisle Community Centre. There was, again, an issue of distance. Fans that did make it were of great impact and were surely some of Redeemer's "die hard" supporters. This game was presented in a much more professional manner, with introductions and national anthems preceding the action. During the first period, the Royals once again established a presence that could not be ignored. They jumped in quickly and got in front with 3 concrete examples of the strength that distinguished them this season. Goals were scored by Shaun Meyering [Stratford, ON], Brad Geerlinks [Georgetown, ON] and Chris Butt [Burlington, ON]. In an effort to get back into the game, the Knights put great pressure on Redeemer's net. Despite this constant bombardment, the Royals' star net-minder—Jordan Mohle [Moorefield, ON] —came up big with countless saves to keep the team's hopes alive. Calvin eventually came out with two goals of their own, but not before Redeemer put the game away. Mike Harris [Keswick, ON] and Jeremy Stevens added to finish off a very frustrated Calvin squad on what was originally thought to be a sort of vacation in Canada. The final score of the match was 5-2 for Redeemer.

Not only did Redeemer end a 9-year drought by beating Calvin College this November, they also came away with the first series win by a 2-0 margin in the club's history. Their win will go down in Redeemer's record books as a banner year for Royals' hockey, but it will also be remembered for the excitement and the experiences enjoyed by friends and family. Relish in the victory all you players and fans, but let's not forget our call to humility and sportsmanship in God's wonderful gift of hockey.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Alfalfan photospread. Page 3
From the capital for the last time... Page 4
The scoop on campus planning. Page 6
Christmas survival guide! Page 7
Crossworld and Sudoku. Page

COMMENTARY

When Santa Meets Bethlehem

JULIE KONYNDYK
EDITOR-IN-CHEIF

Every year, as soon as the leaves fall of the trees and the mall Santa moves in across the food court, a silly little part of me becomes giddy with glee. I know, I know, Christmas has become a materialistic, gaudy and cheesy affair. And my indulgence in yuletide carols and copious amounts of eggnog is completely contrary to the cynical impression I work so hard to attain the other eleven months of the year. But when December 1 rolls around, I simply can't deny it, I'm a sucker for the big guy in red.

That's right. Santa Clause. Not to mention his reindeer, the elves, the cookies, the songs, the miracles on 34th street, the Coka-Cola commercials and those cute little polar bears. If it's plastered in red and green, can be hung on a tree, glows in the dark or jingles while you walk, I like it.

I suppose I first bought into Christmas hullabaloo at a very young age. Unlike my much more inquisitive sisters, I never questioned the existence of Santa Clause until I was confronted with the terrible truth at the beginning of the first grade. Although I was (understandably) quite upset, I didn't abandon my support for Santa. I still don't look upon all things from the North Pole with resentment, quite the contrary actually. I remain unfazed in my mission to make sure every Christmas will be one to make Cindy-Loo-Woo proud.

This really is genuinely out of character for me. Under no circumstances have I ever considered downloading Josh Groban or Mariah Carey, and yet they've both managed to find comfortable homes under my Christmas playlist. But I'm obviously not alone. I know I'm not the only one currently sporting their Care-Package Santa hat.

Now that I've successfully alienated myself from the population of Redeemer students who are commendably less susceptible to Hallmark's version of holiday cheer, I offer a few comments in my defense. Yes, I enjoy Christmas carols and the like. But from Christmas to Christmas I have undergone a few key moments that put this whole issue in perspective.

I suppose the most pivotal example dates back to the Santa days of my youth. As my sister and I tried to decide who got what advent calendar, I realized for the first time the danger that comes when the lines blur between the North Pole and Bethlehem. With our cardboard calendars in hand, we began to eat the chocolates from each day, then closing the flaps so our parents wouldn't notice. When I had my fill of cheap chocolate, I noticed something very disturbing about the image on my calendar. At first glance it looked like a typical Nativity scene. Of course, Mary and Joseph were looking serenely at the silent baby in the manger, while donkeys and sheep sat upright in awe. Very typical indeed. However, in this particular rendering of the nativity story, there weren't angels looming over head. Upon the rooftop of this lowly stable there sat Santa Clause. I kid you not. In this version of the story, good ol' St. Nick was, apparently, keeping a watchful eye over Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus. Of course, at this age I simply laughed at the notion, I could recognize why it was silly, but I didn't quite grasp what a horrifying example this was of our culture's distortion of the Christmas story. I continued to stuff my face full of cheap chocolate, and the bad taste is still with me years later.

I firmly believe that we can drink eggnog and watch "White Christmas" without guilt, but *only* on the condition that we never forget that the "real" Christmas had nothing to do with Bing Crosby, Josh Groban and snowed-in mountain lodges. It's okay to be cozy on Christmas, but let's remind ourselves that the Christmas story isn't so cozy.

Jesus wasn't born into a silent night. Snowflakes weren't falling and nothing was red and green. He was born into a dusty stable, with unhappy animals and hazy heat making the air thick. He was born into a city as crowded the stable over his head. He was born into a world of discomfort, but more important than that, he was born into a world of hate. He born into a world ruled by a man with bloodlust. He was born in a time of commissioned mass-murder. This is the Christmas story. Unfortunately, in reality, this is still the Christmas story. This is still the place that we as Christians find ourselves every time December 25 rolls around. Only in light of this knowledge can we fully grasp the glory of the moment Christ became flesh, and truly fall on our knees.

I love Santa, so long as he stays far away from the stable.

When I realize just how far I've let myself indulge in the sugarplum paradise that is the secular Christmas tradition, I realize why we all do it. We do it because we want to forget the kind of world we're living. It's hard to see a dusty, dirty, blood-stained stable when it's been dressed up with bows and covered in white snow. But make sure you take just a little time this Christmas to see what's underneath that fluffy white blanket. Enjoy the chestnuts and the open fire. Count down partridges and pear trees. But don't force that kind of warm, fuzzy feeling onto the actual Christmas story. Let's leave that story as it is. After all, "*that's* what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown."

To reiterate, there's nothing wrong with Rudolph. He's sits at the center of a delightful, heroic little tale. But let's all make sure he stays in the North pole, and steers clear of Bethlehem. Enjoy these two versions of Christmas, just don't mix them together, and remember which one is much more than a story.

THE CROWN

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Juliane Konyndyk

MANAGING EDITOR
Steve Schilstra

LAYOUT EDITOR
Angela Kerber

ASSISTANT COPY EDITOR
Margaret Beresford

SENIOR COPY EDITOR
Erin Hesselink

ART DIRECTOR
Christopher Keefer

PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Jeremy Burns

DIGITAL EDITOR
Timothy Ubbens

FACULTY ADVISOR:
Dr. John Van Rys

ADVERTISING: Steve Schilstra, Crown Office, 905.648.2139 c/o Redeemer University College, 777 Garner Rd E, Ancaster, ON, L9K 1J4. Subscription enquiries may be addressed to the managing editor at the above address.
Letters to the editor and article submissions shall be sent via email to **thecrown@redeemer.ca**

. Letters must include the name and contact information of the writer, although we may print anonymously by special request. Works submitted as letters will be edited for clarity and length only.

The opinions expressed in *The Crown* are not necessarily those of Redeemer University College's student body, faculty, or administration.

The Crown is published twelve times per academic year. It is funded by the students of Redeemer University College and by advertising.

The Crown is published by students but is dedicated to the broader college community.

Photos provided by Jeremy Burns, Evan MacAlpine, Kaitlyn McGee, Tony Wiersma and Tiffany Wagner.

For Those Who See Yule-Time as Gruel-Time

The Singing Smiling Crazies are Back

JORDAN DELLEMAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

We are back at this time of year. For most it is a time of joy, gift giving (and wrapping), carolling, and lots of turkey. For the rest of us, it is a time of persecution.

I do not like carols. I am already sick of "Jingle Bell Rock" and I haven't even heard it this year. I have an intense feeling of nausea whenever people demand I am happy because of the season. It gets worse when singing "Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer". How is that supposed to cheer me up? I love my Grandma!

Now do not call me a grinch. This is the persecution I was speaking of. I prefer to be referred to as a Sober Yuletider. I enjoy Christmas, but I am not going to act like I am drunk during it. Delirious, repetitious singing, calling everyone friend and hugging, staying up to all hours giddy, and fighting each other over the honour of putting the angel on the top of the tree. I was wondering if we could get some YAA going, Yule-Alcohol Anonymous.

Why must we be happy during this time? If you are Christian, well it makes sense, to an extent. But going nuts for... ug... two months like some people do is just a little excessive, or maybe not excessive enough. Why not be happy Jesus came to earth all year?

Now, if you aren't Christian, then it makes no sense at all. Be happy because snow has come and you cannot wear anything that makes you look good. Be happy because millions of flashing lights are everywhere, blinding you. Be happy ice cakes the streets and you can barely walk down the road. Be happy because you are getting lots of stuff, then half to pay of credit cards the next three months. I am not feeling it.

Not to say I do not like Christmas. I love the gift get... giving. I love saying "Merry Christmas" and everyone being cheery. I love all the charity people express. And I love the food like you cannot imagine. But don't you think it is getting a little excessive? But my main point is the carols drive me nuts.

November! Early November the noise starts, and it does not end till January, yes my family is not done with those CDs till January! Three months is dinging, binging bells, banging drums, little kid voices, and sleighs of merriment. I haven't ever ridden in a sleigh! And why must we play songs with the same instrument we locate smelly cows?

So what I am really trying to say here is that for those of us who have taste in music, please leave us in peace. Not everyone appreciates the same noise that you do. Some people find Weird Al's "The Night Santa Went Crazy" funny. Some of us are tired of the songs of our childhood. Some of us celebrate Christmas on Christmas.

CAMPUS NEWS

Home in Alfalfa is Home at Redeemer

ANDREW VLASBLOM
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Finding our place in the world is never a simple deal. It's a flippin' huge, complex ordeal. But should it be? I asked myself this question after watching *Home in Alfalfa* at Redeemer this past November. In truth, I am glad to be writing this review now instead of immediately after I saw the play. After some reflection, I've come to view *Alfalfa* as more than a simple feel-good happy ending story. Based on Hugh Cook's novel of the same name, adapted for the stage by Ray Louter, and directed by Tom Carson, the play works simultaneously as both an accessible heartwarming comedy and a challenging piece of material.

The play works primarily as a comedy based in the small fictional town of Alfalfa. Here follows the search for adventure through the characters of Paul and Virginia, while simultaneously exploring the anti-adventures of the country-folkish Alfalfans. As the characters and setting are primarily Dutch, the play's comedy frequently parodies Dutch traditions, reservedness, and cultural superiority. Based on Cook's novel which is set in the Netherlands, Louter has done a remarkable job adapting the novel for a contemporary Canadian audience, while leaving the core themes and enough Dutch humour intact for the many Dutch viewers to indulge in bushels.

While the core theme of the play has seemingly simplistic implications for how we can find our "home" in society, I now find this fairly amusing. By addressing this question in a simple way, the play's theme becomes much more complex: Should finding our place in society be a complex ordeal? If all life was as peaceful as the town of Alfalfa, it would indubitably be not. When seeking a situation that is larger than life, we will inevitably face larger-than-life obstacles in getting there and staying there. However, if we try slowing down and allow our hearts to absorb life rather than rushing into it, the answer as to where "home" can be found will genuinely surface. *Alfalfa* explores how we can find our place in society through slowing down, and shows that through letting go of preconceived conceptions of reality, we will feel at home with ourselves and those around us.

Watching *Home in Alfalfa* live on stage in Redeemer's auditorium was an enlivening experience. The production is a terrific example of a balance found for conveying a genuinely enjoyable theatrical experience. Everything seemed to be at its best, and few things seemed larger-than-life, which is essential for making *Alfalfa* work.

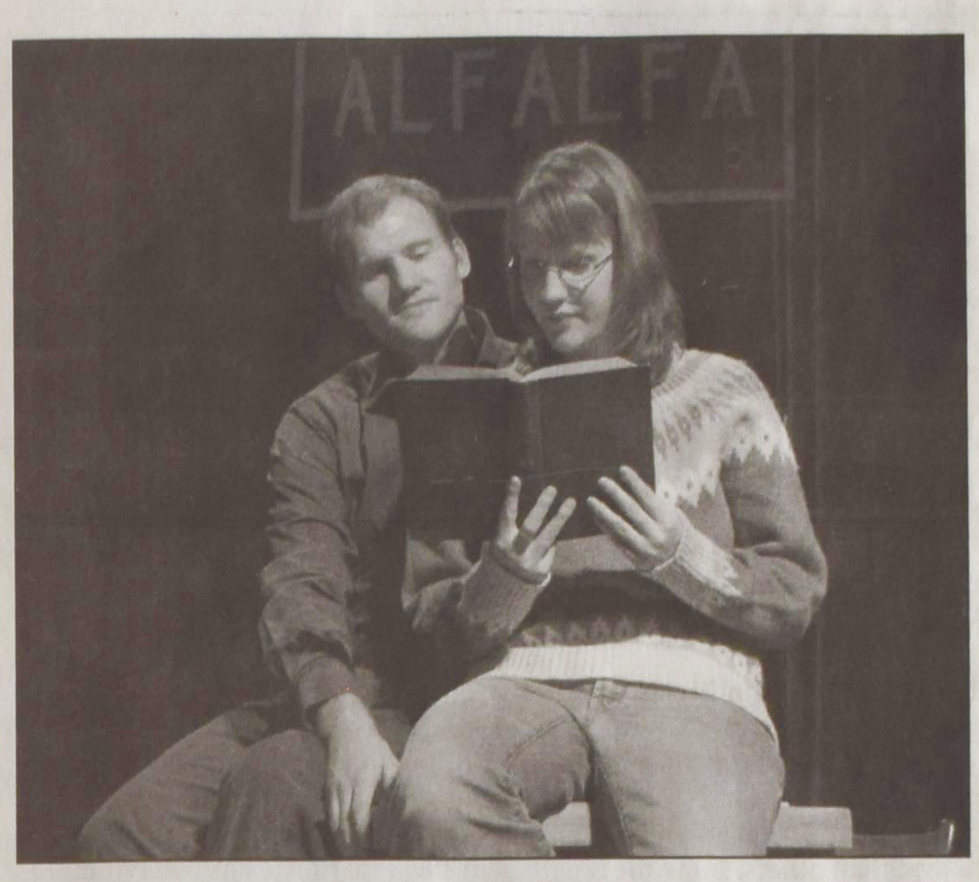
The cast of the play displayed strong performances, with few overacting instances. The entire ensemble contributed a wide array of diverse dynamics, and the chemistry between them all was wonderful. Stephanie Elgersma and Noah Hicks gave strong lead performances, while Ryan Sero, Kevin Lobert, Amie Vermeer, Terri Brunsting, and David Vandersteen churned out strong supporting roles. New and rising talent include Dunstan Gomes, Kris Van Soelen, Nicole Dunham, Philip Wonder, Kaitlyn McGee, Alicia Kruisselbrink, Denise Chan, and more. The biggest acting surprise came from Aaron Craig, however, who gave a fantastic performance as both a musician and a ostentatious police officer. The most surprising act of the night came from Scott Fairley. (I advise you to ask Scott personally why this might be the case.)

The sound in *Alfala* is far and away the show's highlight. While intermittently riddled with the ongoing stories of Alfalfa's inhabitants, the stage came to life when the cast began to sing. The songs, with lyrics written by Ray Louter and music composed by Ryan McKenna, are cheerfully simplistic, yet full of energy and emotion. The songs carry the progression of the play, and advance the stories beyond their comedic form. Indeed, while Alfalfa is primarily a comedy, it also works as a musical.

The lighting of the production worked well for the most part, although it seemed slightly rough in some areas. Still, with the diverse range of lighting the play had going for it, it was an ambitious attempt brought to the table and, for the most part, effectively emphasized the action on-stage.

The production would not have existed without the supporting crew, who have, by the sweat of their feet, brought this play to life. Credits include Sharon Klassen, producer; Laura Stewart and Joy Johnson, assistant producers; Jody Sero, stage manager; Paul DJ Floyd, assistant stage manager; Chris Howlett, assistant director; Joe Hamilton, assistant director, publicity; Jessica De Smit, house manager; and Bethany McMurray, costumes.

Tom Carson has done a solid job constructing the play into the evolved form that was shown on stage during its world premiere. The play works as an endearing story that, while having simple overtones, serves as a challenge for finding our "home" in society; more than anything, however, *Home in Alfalfa* serves as a testament to the theatrical talent this institution packs.



After *Alfalfa*:
Reflections from a Cast Member

TERRI BRUNSTING
SPECIAL TO THE CROWN

Time for a very non-theological late night reflection on art as worship and the recent mainstage production! There's a good chance this should have stayed as a mere facebook note, but I decided to go out on a limb:

Seems there's been some controversy these days about what makes art worship. Now, I am no painter, but I do get to create once in awhile. Recently I got to create with my body and voice in a certain play called *Home in Alfalfa*.

Now, when it comes to the whole art as worship question, I've always felt kind of vague about it all. I knew acting, writing, music, the things I do, all count as worship in some wordy, in-my-head, Creation Regained-ish sense of the word. I have prayed many times that I could honor God with how I performed or wrote. This always felt somewhat obligatory to be honest, as if God would only help me out if I made some sort of perfunctory promise that it was all for him somehow. And I think I did feel some genuine thankfulness at times, but it was all about me.

This play helped me understand better why I put myself through the hassle and stress and heart-rending process that is theatre. I got myself plunked in this cast at the last minute on a whim because I was bored. And there were some cool people in the cast, for sure. But mostly, I was just bored. And somehow, on this whim of mine, though I had the peasliest little part, I grew.

We prayed before the first Thursday night show, and while we were standing in a circle, holding hands all sappy-like, this wave of pure gratitude washed over me. It's a rare feeling. See, some talented man wrote a book, which another talented man slowly morphed into a script, and another talented man took on the role of director, and then a pile of very random and talented people were put into perfect parts. None of us did this on our own, and not one of us carried the weight of this thing on our small shoulders. I knew before that Thursday show that *Home in Alfalfa* happened so that we could show our community themselves as in a mirror. So that people could realize they were human again and laugh at themselves. Because we're all so small and so delightful and we forget so often. This play was like God saying to me and through me, "I laugh at you and delight in you and love you dearly. Laugh and delight in yourselves. It's allowed."

We get to feel and love and laugh and cry and it's all a gift. That's why we do this.

Walking into the darkness of the backstage on Saturday night, there was a brief moment where I felt I was watching into a cathedral. One could hear a pin drop. The silence was suddenly holy, and then we began our last show.

ALL PHOTOS TAKEN BY TONY WEIRSMA

NEWS & POLITICS

Retrospect: My Time in the Capital

BRENDAN KOOY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

I am nearing the culmination of my brief time in Ottawa. For the past three months, I have lived in the downtown core of the city while working as an intern in the office of Peter MacKay, the Minister of National Defence. These two opportunities have tremendously enriched my life and my education, as well as teaching me a thing or two along the way.

Below is a list of the top five things that I have observed or learned while here:

1. The life of a politician is not a glamorous one.

The fact of the matter is, these people work hard. Yes, some work harder than others, some are more honest than others, some file bigger expense reports than others. But the average Canadian politician is doing their best to serve your needs while in Ottawa.

Politicians have to make several large sacrifices in order to enter politics in the first place. First, they have to commit to being away from home, wherever that is for them, for at least five days a week. If they are lucky, they will get to spend 48 hours at home with their family on an average weekend, not counting local announcements or events that need to be attended. Second, a politician's time is completely at the mercy of their party leader. They have no choice over whether or not to attend votes, meetings, or conferences; their schedule is molded by such events. Finally, many politicians give up lucrative private careers in order to enter public life. Many are successful lawyers or businessmen who enter politics only to receive lower pay, a busier schedule and a more stressful life.

2. Being a Christian in politics does not necessarily mean being a Conservative.

Now this might sound like blasphemy coming from someone who is a Tory supporter himself, but it is a reality that is strikingly true. Politicians like Glen Pearson of the Liberals and Bill Blaikie or the New Democrats are perfect examples of this, among others.

With the recent dominance of the Christian Right in the United States, people have grown to automatically associate Christianity with the Conservative Party. But really, should one's political association automatically be assigned to the right side of the spectrum?

There is merit to be found within the socially-based Liberals and NDP as well, believe it or not. What more, sometimes Christians in these parties even behave more true to their faith than their Tory counterparts. In short, Christian voters must often go beyond a candidate's faith to determine their worth as a politician.

3. The city of Ottawa is a lot nicer than Hamilton

Now, I did not need to travel to and live in Ottawa to make this statement. Quite frankly, it is a no-brainer to say that Canada's capital city is a generally more aesthetic place than Hamilton, the Steel City itself. But beyond not being a garbage can for the heavy industries of Ontario, there are other reasons why one should consider Ottawa as a place to live.

Buoyed by the huge amounts of money that the National Capital Commission, founded by Mackenzie-King, pours into the beautification of the city each year, things never cease to look their best in Ottawa. With a thriving downtown core, a spread of historic buildings, and the scenery of the Rideau Canal, one can understand why tourists flock to Ottawa year-round with their cameras. Other highlights include the Bywaard Market, the University of Ottawa campus, and Gatineau Park in Quebec. All in all, the city is well worth visiting or even living in.

4. The importance of off-campus study

After spending three years in a classroom, I have found that my one-semester escape from campus has helped ground and focus my education. The importance of the classroom cannot be discounted; however, I feel that without my semester here, I would not be nearly as prepared as I feel now to successfully engage a career upon graduating in May.

I was given many opportunities in my office over the semester. From speech-writing to media work to schedule management, I have had the chance to blend into and learn from the atmosphere of a political office. This has meant fitting into a fast-paced environment where it is not a question of whether something can be done, it is a question of when it can be done. This has been nothing short of exhilarating, as I have been given a small taste of what the real job world will be like.

So please, if you have not considered going off campus or taking an internship for a semester, push yourself to do it. I hope it will be a rewarding experience that will compliment and complete your time at Redeemer as much as it has mine.

Brendan Kooy is a fourth-year Redeemer student, currently participating in a one-semester internship program on Parliament Hill. Aside from politics, Brendan enjoys sports, history, and long walks on the beach. He does not enjoy Dalton McGuinty.

Brendan Kooy and Peter MacKay, the Minister of National Defence

World Affairs Updates from the Redeemer Model United Nations Team

Our Holy Calling To Prevent and End a World Crisis

Genocide in Darfur: Part One

MATTHEW E. CASEY
SECONDARY-GENERAL RMUNT

This article contains some graphic content.

As you sit reading this newspaper on the other side of the world, innocent people are being murdered. For what reason? For their religion and their race. The United Nations Commission on Darfur labeled the crisis, "the worst humanitarian situation in the world." Yet, little is being done to stop these atrocious acts of injustice. In this miniseries, we told you we wanted to achieve one thing: action. As you read the article today on the Darfur Genocide, please do not let the voices of the victims be silent.

In 2003, after twenty years of civil war in Sudan, the Government in the North and the Rebels in the South signed a Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). In this CPA, it was agreed that the south would share power in the Khartoum government and share the wealth and resources of Sudan. Yet in the CPA there was no mention of the Western Province of Darfur. Darfur Rebels wanted a share in what the south had succeeded in fighting for and took up arms and formed two militias: the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and the Sudanese Liberation Army (SLA). In March 2003, these rebel militias attacked an airport at Al-Fasher, in Darfur. Why? They hit the airport because it was where it would count for years. The Chinese and Russians had sold highly expensive Anatov Bomber Helicopters and airplanes. By attacking the airport, one could hit them exactly where it hurt their paychecks. Due to this act, the Government of Sudan (GoS) decided to seal off the boarders of Darfur and kick out all the foreigners as well as begin to commit mass murder. This action by the rebels and a pure hatred for their race led to the current Darfur Genocide.

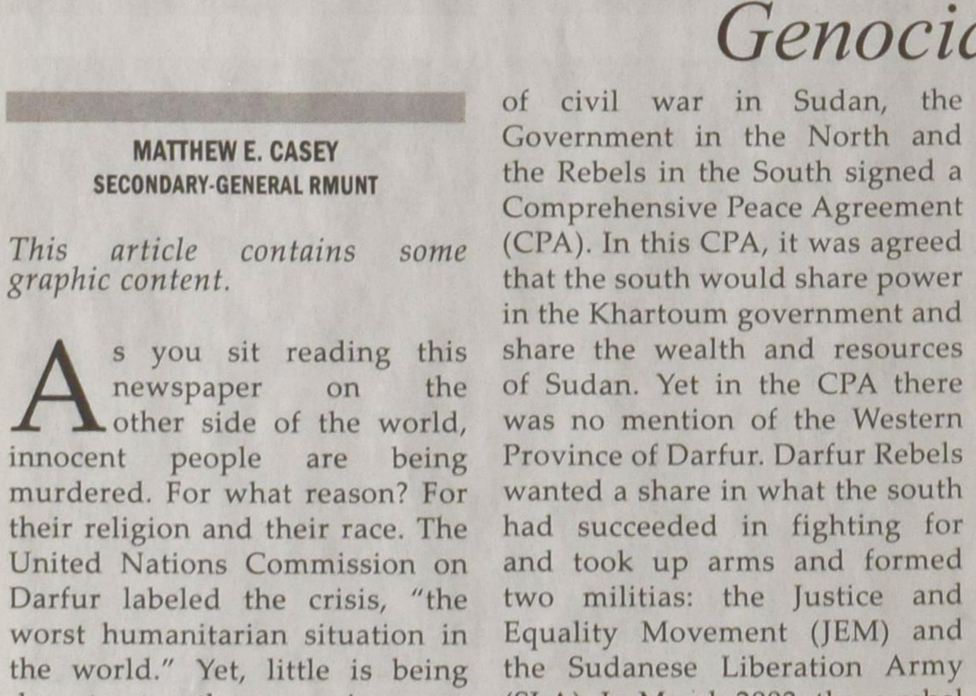
Since the beginning of the fighting in 2003, 450,000 men, women and children have been brutally slaughtered. 2.5 million have been displaced in either Internally Displaced Camps in Darfur or UN Refugee Camps in Eastern Chad. I'm sure these seem like statistics and numbers, and they do not tell you the story of the brutality and horror suffered by the people. It is time people start listening to what human beings are suffering with. Rwanda is like a censored preview of what is happening in Darfur.

Imagine your family sitting at the breakfast table talking about your plans for the day before you go off to school. Then suddenly, there is a loud noise above your head. It sounds like thunder, yet it is perfectly sunny outside. Your father goes to the veranda and looks out and comes back with a look of horror on his face. "The Devils on Horseback are coming", he tells you. But before you can hide, before you can run, it is too late. All you see is a flash of white, and feel the skin burning off your body as you slowly and painfully die. This is an everyday occurrence in Darfur, The Government uses their Anatov 'fire bombers' and bomb whole families as they are going about their business.

Now, let's imagine that you, your siblings, and your mother make it out of the house alive. Now you have to escape a village smoldering while the Janjweed (Devil on Horseback) militia is riding through the village killing everyone in its path. You run as fast as you can, and make it to the end of the village. Just as you taste the joy of escape and freedom, they surround you. They tell your mother that she must kill one of her sons, or the whole family will die. Your mother makes the choice to end one life rather than several. After your mother takes the life of your brother, you are free to go.

Now that the rest of your family is let free, you begin your long journey over rough terrain to the boarder of Chad. You enter the country and make it to a refugee camp. But you immediately realize it was better in Darfur then here. There is no food, no water, and every disease you can imagine. You set up a tent in the camp and live there. One day, you need firewood to keep the fire going, so your mom sends your twelve-year-old sister to go get firewood. An hour, two hours, a day goes by, and no sign of her. There is nothing you can do except pray. You pray one night, two nights, ten nights - and still no sign of her. Heavy with grief, you go to the well to get water and you find your little sister there. You see Janjweed raping her. When they finish with her, and she is of no more use to them, you watch as they put a bullet in her head. You go back to the camp to tell your mom, but when you get there, she is gone. You go to the men in the blue helmets and ask where your mom is. They tell you she has died of malnutrition. So there you are, all alone in an unfamiliar country, left to fight for yourself.

The sad thing is that the scenario I gave you isn't fiction at all. It is a real story of a teen that lost her entire family because of the Darfur genocide. She lived in that camp, but now she is dying of malnutrition. Sadly, it often seems that one must tell tragic and graphic accounts to get a reaction in our world today. This Christmas season, you will go home to your wealthy families and enjoy a wonderful Christmas. Maybe you'll get that new Ipod you wanted, but other people will get the worst Christmas present of all: death. It is up to you to make a difference. It is up to you to change the course of history. It is up to you to prevent our past from becoming the future. This Christmas many will be asking for the greatest gift of all from the true gift giver, Jesus Christ. His gift is life. Make a difference, and Merry Christmas.



Darfur NYT 22806 Michael Kamber

Hope in a Box

SAVANNAH SAARLOOS
MEMBER OF RMUNT

Imagine a Christmas without Santa Clause, without gifts, without aChristmas tree, without a Christmas feast, without decorations, without candy canes, without a home, without hope. Too many people living in North America think this situation is inconceivable. However, for many children, this is an unfortunate reality. There are millions of boys and girls living in poverty throughout the world. This is an injustice. As Christians, we have an obligation to help those in need.

Many people offer hope and aid to these children in the form of Christmas shoe boxes through Operation Christmas Child, a relief program that is organized by Samaritans Purse. Samaritans Purse is a Christian organization that is devoted to helping people who are less fortunate by providing physical aid as well as sharing God's gift of hope. Operation Christmas Child began in 1993, when supplies were sent to orphaned children in Romania. In total, over 46 million shoe boxes have been given to needy children since its beginnings. In 2006 alone, 7.6 million shoe boxes were sent out. The shoe boxes are delivered to children in over 100 countries, most of which are third world countries. Included are the countries of Brazil, Romania, Sudan, Russia, Chile and Honduras.

Each year, average citizens from North America and other developed countries do an extraordinary deed by helping with Operation Christmas Child. There are various ways in which people can become involved. Some people prepare the shoe boxes, filling them with gifts, supplies and treats. Others make donations, package and sort, and deliver the gifts.

Even though a shoe box filled with random supplies and gifts may seem like a small or insignificant gift, it actually means the world to the needy or orphaned child who receives it. Many children's lives have been changed. The shoe boxes contain necessary supplies which help the children out physically. For example, children will often receive tooth brushes. The shoe boxes also provide hope and God's message of salvation is spread to the children. Some people send notes of encouragement along with the shoebox. Operation Christmas Child is an amazing and God honoring program.

Now, instead of imagining a Christmas without supplies, without typical traditions and without hope, imagine receiving a shoe box that alters your perspective and gives you a hope that will last a lifetime. Anyone can help and give hope to needy children.

For more information about how to become involved in Operation Christmas Child, visit their website at: http://www.samaritanspurse.org/ Also you can call 1 800 303 1269

CALLING ALL ARTISTS AND COMPUTER GRAPHIC DESIGNERS: The Redeemer Model UN Team is holding a contest for all interested in creating a logo for our team. The prize for the best logo is $40 plus the use of their logo by the team at all our events. The logo should represent our two goals: 1. To teach students the workings of the UN and international Diplomacy and 2. Our work to prevent and solve world issues facing humanity. It should represent our mottos, "Carrying out God's Purpose in International Relations" and "Christ's Ambassadors to all Nations". If interested in the contest email us at modelUNteam@redeemer.ca, the due date for the logos is January 4th, 2008.

What's Happening In The World?

Matthew E. Casey
Secretary-General of the RMUNT

Sudan:
A British School Teacher was arrested for insulting the Islamic faith after naming a Teddy Bear Mohammed. Since her arrest, protestors have taken to the street, calling for her execution for religious hatred.

Annapolis, USA:
Prime Minister Ehud Olmert of Israel, President Abbas of Palestine and President George W. Bush met in Annapolis to begin peace. The plan includes a two state solution where both Israel and Palestine would share Israel.

Windsor-Detroit Border:
A Canadian trucker was arrested at the boarder by US Homeland Security and the Canadian Boarder Protection Services. The man is charged with committing genocide and crimes against humanity in his homeland of Croatia. The Government of Canada announced that this man would be charged and tried in Canadian Court under the 2000 War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity Act. He will be the seconded person in Canada to be charged with genocide under this act. The other is Desire Muynessa, who is currently on trial in Montreal for committing genocide and crimes against humanity in his homeland of Rwanda.

Alaska, USA:
In a very rare occurrence this past week, the Canadian Air Force was in charge of protecting United States airspace over Alaska and the artic region. A few weeks earlier, a US F-15 crashed causing the investigation and inspection of all US F-15's. F-15's are the main fighter and defense aircraft of the US. Due to this inspection, no fighters were able to protect American Airspace. Canada, a member of NORAD, took over the defense with several F-18's. Since this summer, NORAD has been on alert, and dealing with the Artic because of Russia's showing of Naval and Air sovereignty over the artic and their resuming of long-range air patrols close to Canadian and American Airspace. Due to the closeness and threat of these flights, NORAD and NATO in Europe are scrambling to send fighters to escort these long range patrol aircraft.

Pakistan:
President Musharraf has stepped down from his post as the Chief of the Army to run as President of the country as a civilian. In Pakistan, hundreds of lawyers, opposition members, and people who oppose the dictator have been thrown in prison. Musharraf says that he will lower the State of Emergency after the election, even though imprisoned members of the Supreme Court consider his rule illegitimate.

The True Meaning of Christmas

GREG DYKSHOORN
MEMBER OF RMUNT

Merry X-Mas! We hear and see this phrase a lot during this season. The purpose is to avoid saying CHRISTmas, or to be "politically correct." Whether or not these people water down the Holiday Season, the truth remains that Christ is the reason for the season. Although Jesus' birth was not celebrated right away, the bishop of Rome in 137 AD ordered that Jesus' birth be recognized and celebrated. Another bishop, Julius I, decided the date to celebrate and observe Jesus' birth would be December 25.

The use of the X came in the 16th century. Europeans began using X for shorthand writing purposes. The X would replace Christ. Why the X? The Monks used the letter X because it was the first letter in the Greek word Christos. This Greek and Hebrew word Christos comes from the word Messiah. They both mean the same thing, which is "Anointed One." The meaning of the X was understood among the Clergy, but over time the meaning was lost among many Christians, and when the X appeared, it became a sign of disrespect and arrogance.

Now let us not be fooled by that perception. There is now a modern use of X-Mas. How do we react to this? Do we react offended, disturbed, or disappointed? Or do we simply respond with a smile, "And I wish a Merry Christmas to you as well!" I recently read a quote on a dorm's wall: "Preach the Gospel and if necessary, use words." With the right heart, spreading the Christmas message could be as simple as collecting canned goods or clothing, giving up the coat on your back for someone less fortunate, or putting up a nativity scene in your yard. I have been privileged to witness all of these things, and it is encouraging to see young Christian men and women at work for God's purpose.

University students' worldviews are in the late stages of moulding. Although there is always room for leeway or change, it is important that we set ourselves up with habits and views that honour God. During this Christmas season, there are many things that can distract us, such as giving gifts, cards, trees, decorations, and maybe even family. Can we give gifts as well as celebrate Jesus' birth? I believe so, but the dangers of getting caught up in the "consumerist Christmas" are heightened. Christianity is suppressed the most by our culture when Christmas is celebrated. "Happy Holidays", "Season Greetings", "Merry X-Mas", and "Festive Fun" are all different phrases. This is a holiday meant to celebrate Christmas. No matter what decisions we make, let's live out the true meaning behind the Star of Bethlehem, whether that is by word, action, or deed. Just in case the true may be oblivious, it is about Jesus' birth and what His legacy has made possible for us.

Although exams, papers, sports, and life (and its "drama") in general continues to hustle on by, try to take a step back to appreciate the bristling wind, the pelting snow, a warm place to live, and the life God has granted you. We have all been blessed in one way or another. As Christmas is celebrated across the world, we remember the suffering, the poor, and the unbelievers. December 25 is a day that unites Christians in the world! What a concept.

What are you waiting for? Christmas is here…I encourage each of you this Christmas (although you may do this all the time) to tell your loved ones how much you love and appreciate them, and your friends how much they mean to you. Lastly, evaluate yourself. How do you want to make a difference? Where do you want to be at the next Christmas? Maybe this New Year's resolution may be the biggest one you have ever made in your short life. And if it is, may God give you the strength to carry that goal out. Lastly, if you're hyper, let loose and listen to some beats whether they be "Christmas-y" or legendary.

Merry Christmas!

SENATE NEWS

Looking to the Future

Catching Up With the Campus Planning Committee

JEMICA HALLBERG
INFORMATION OFFICER

What is the Campus Planning Committee? What have they been up to? And what can we look forward to on campus?

The Campus Planning Committee is responsible for creating plans for Redeemer's physical improvement and expansion on campus and overseeing the process. Here is a glimpse at what the Committee has achieved and is formulating for the future.

The Campus Planning Committee has been hard at work with expansions and improvements on campus. In the recent past the "Growing With Integrity" campaign has provided improvements to the roads, walkways and parking spaces, as well as expansion to the academic building with the East Addition and South Wing. Along with requisite improvements there have also been plans implemented for a greener campus. For example: Redeemer university College has decided to go with more energy efficient lighting. From new signage to renovated dorms to the beginning of a conservation and recreation park, the Campus Planning Committee has been full of activity. It is a time of celebration as Redeemer has reached its 25th anniversary and achieved much in physical growth on campus.

As the number of students at Redeemer University College increases, the Campus Planning Committee has been looking at ways to accommodate. A new Student Campus Centre, increased dinning area and more residential space are future facilities that will enable Redeemer to attain its projected enrolment. Development in the Academic Building will assist in achieving and maintaining the enrolment growth as well. There is consideration of increased space for science labs, art studios, offices, classrooms, an expanded athletic centre, and possibly a fine arts centre.

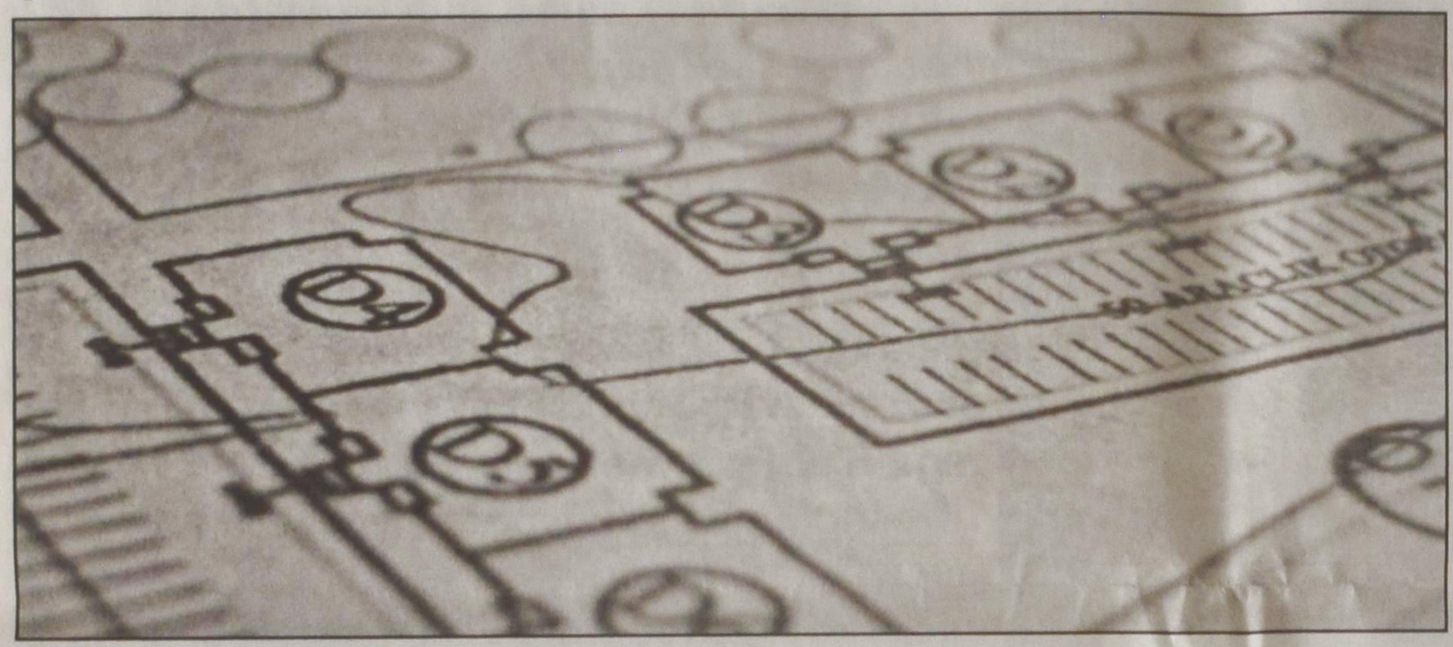
With a growing commuter population at Redeemer the first phase of expansion will focus on the new Student Center to be built at the front of the property. This new center could include a new Rec. Center, new commuter lounges and study areas, and new Student Government offices. Also dining and food services will have to be considered as enrolment increases.

A few years from now the second phase of the Campus Planning Committee's expansion strategy will be implemented as Redeemer hopes to reach 940 students. There are, however, more factors involved in these considerations so these plans remain tentative. In this more distant plan, Redeemer hopes to obtain up to three additional acres to the east of front campus and up to three additional acres to the west of front campus. This property would be used for the long range vision of graduate programs. Renovation to the gym is also being considered in this five year plan as it would provide more room for the theatre arts, fine arts and help with limited office space.

As Senate we know that this is a lot of what ifs? And when's? As well as a lot of information for just a short article. We understand there are concerns about some of the plans and that there is excitement about some of them. This is why Senate is seeking out ways to inform you, the students of what is happening. We hope to have the planning Committee give a detailed address to the students at an activity period and maybe some floor plans to be printed in the crown next semester.

If you have questions about the Campus Planning Committee or another committee don't hesitate to bring your questions to Senate – and yes, I just used this article as a plug to encourage communication between students and Senate.

It is exciting to consider the plans underway for Redeemer's campus. As we celebrate God's faithfulness to Redeemer as an institution over the 25 years we can also celebrate the improvements made and yet to come on Redeemer's campus. Stay connected to The Crown next semester for some more detailed plans from the Campus Planning Committee.



A Look Back On Senate

CHANDLER HORNE
VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATION

Where have we been, where are we going?

When you look back on the semester you must wonder where it all went. It feels as though it was only yesterday when we were packing our bags and coming to school, saying goodbye to our family members and saying hello to people you hadn't seen for a season.

However, for Senate our year started much earlier than September. Plans and projects were underway during the summer. We wanted to come into the year hitting hard, getting at important issues, maximizing time and recourses. Thoughts in the summer included: our vision, our first address to students, how to build relationships with administration, and questions about what difficult issues we would tackle. Senators were planning events and formulating tactics to address what was on the average students mind. Coming together in September we finalized our vision and began steps to accomplish it.

I believe there has been a lot of growth this year. Last year's Senators left us in a great position; last year's Senate gave this year's Senate a new structure and created opportunities for us to work more effectively. This year we have worked on the structural issues that arose from that. We answered questions like: how will the Communication Committee work best alongside the Student Affairs Committee? How will we fill the Clubs Senator position that was not filled last year? And what steps will be taken to implement the First Year Senators into their positions. On top of that, Senate has succeeded in dividing up funds for all the clubs at Redeemer, and appointed representatives for all the committees that affect the school as a whole. The Student Affairs Committee has addressed issues like the Int. class, class conflicts, and bus scheduling problems. The finance committee has done what they do best with numbers, which is so very important to every department within Senate.

We have also been your voice. This is something that students often do not see, and may be why Senate is not faring well on The Crown website pole concerning Student Senate's effectiveness. Many Senators have a duty to be a part of committees that discuss important topics like the food service at Redeemer, the housing situations, the strategic planning issues, and environmental issues. We ask questions, we discover student views and then we bring them to the places that can effect this change. I challenge the student body to not just read this article - which cannot encompass all that Senate does - but talk to your senators, come out to meetings on Tuesdays and find out what is being done, what could be done, and even have the chance to voice your thoughts. If we aren't accomplishing what you think we should be, we need to know that, we need to hear from you. Please come forward. It only takes a minute.

A large part of Senates structure this year includes a goal for better communication. It has been our observation that Students don't fully understand the purpose of Senate. They don't understand why we are here, what we do and can do. That is why I have been excited to share this message with students. The communication team has worked hard to use the mediums available to us to address students most effectively, like Time Out and The Crown. We are working on consistency and trying to be that medium between Students and those that change our community. By the end of this article I would like to leave you with what we will be attempting for next semester. Of course there will be the great events like the Winter Retreat, more Coffee Houses and Hot Spots, Commuter Socials, and ways to beat the stress of the student life while taking part in fellowship and Christian community; we will also be working on a way to get students involved with the future of our school. The Communication Committee wants to display information about campus development and open up dialogue on that issue. We also want to start a two-way communication information campaign. We want to continue to address commuter issues, bus complaints, and other struggles that students have with their Redeemer experience. As I finish this I would like to ask students to continue to be prayerful about the issues they feel most strongly about and continue to seek out ways to be involved even if it simply means talking to a Senator.

Talk to you soon!

From One First Year to Another

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending." – Robinson

RACHEL DEVRIES
FIRST YEAR SENATOR

On November 22, Redeemer Student Senate held a forum to address the questions and concerns of first year students regarding the INT 101 class. Many complaints and criticisms were being raised concerning the newly revamped course, and Senate provided an outlet in which these concerns could be voiced in an effective way.

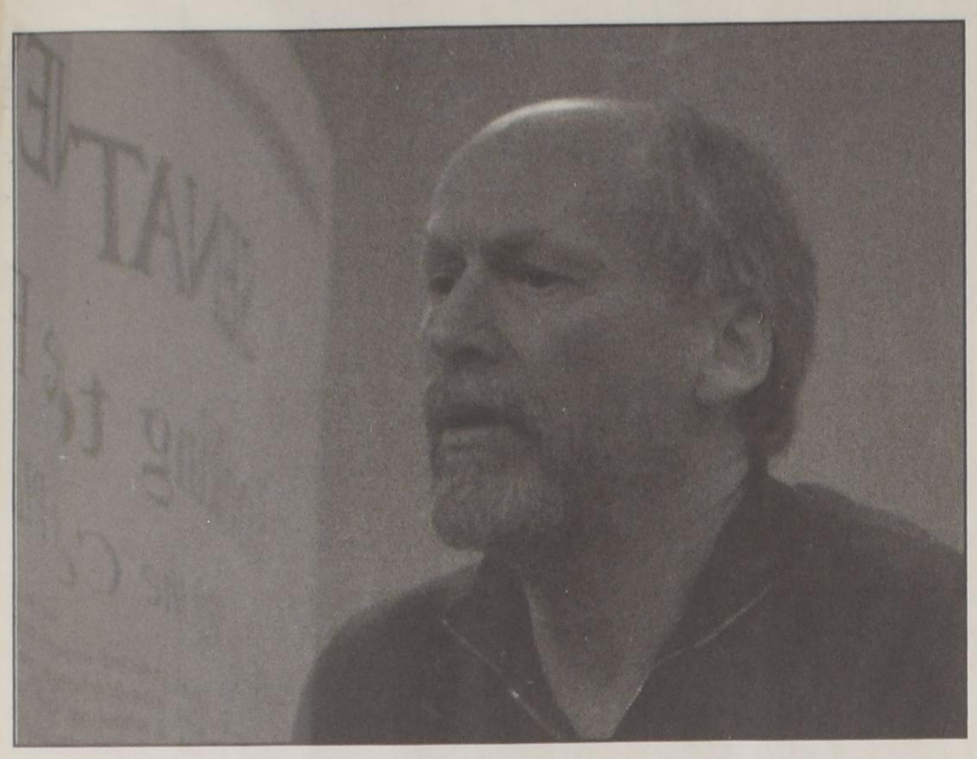
The event went well and students were given the opportunity to suggest changes and add positive comments, but the number of students in attendance was rather disappointing. Only fifteen students were in attendance.

Although this is a busy time of year, and many students have prior engagements, it is important to realize that change will only be inspired if people allow their voices to be heard. Complaints are only noisy chatter and annoying to the people around. If people truly believe that something needs change, than it should be a priority to seek out that change. First year students were given the opportunity to put their complaints to good use, but very few took the chance.

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending." Yes, it is true. Many of us have already taken the INT 101 class and now smirk at those who are currently involved. But wouldn't it be more effective to muster up the confidence needed to shine a light on the aspects of the course that need improvement. We are important members of the Redeemer University College community and our active involvement will make a difference.

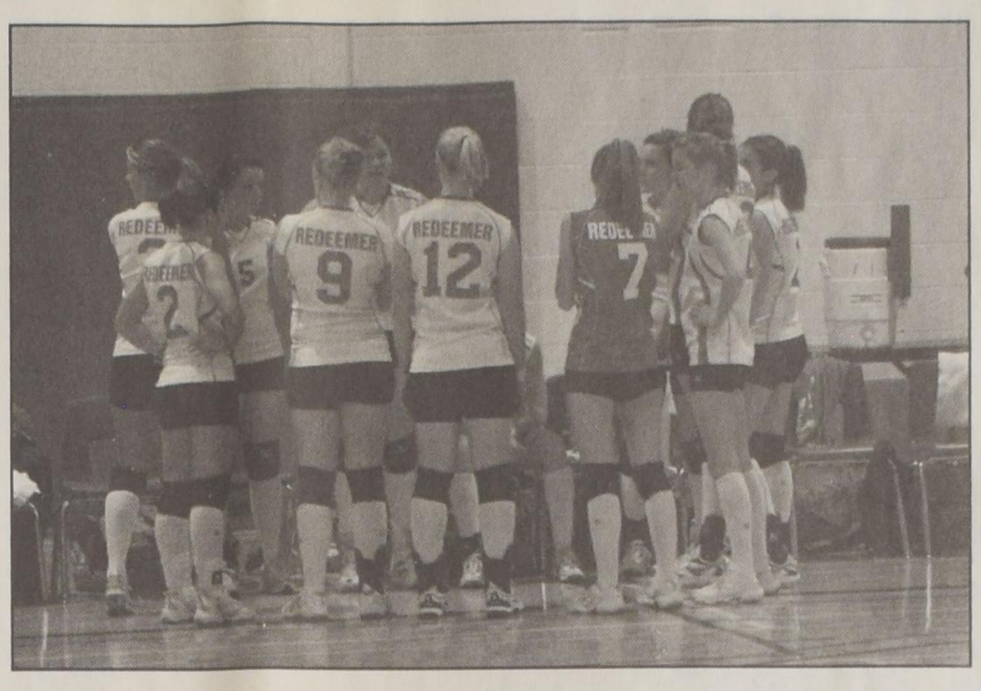
Below: Senators and students gather together for a time of fellowship and fun at the Fall Entreat. If you missed that event this semester, don't miss the Winter Retreat! January 11th to 13th the Winter Retreat is where you want to be. Enjoy worship, fellowship, a speaker and lots of fun! Sign up in the Senate Office and make sure to bring your $15.00.

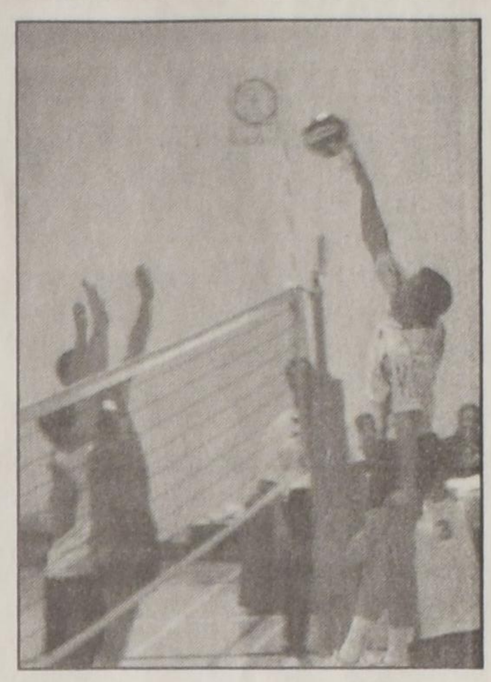
Around Campus



John Steffler, the present Poet Laureate came to Redeemer on November 29. Mr. Steffler has been Canada's Poet Laureate since December 2006. He taught for many years at Memorial University's Sir Wilfred Grenfell College in Corner Brook, Newfoundland, and now lives in Montreal. It was an honour to host him!

Upcoming Women's Varsity Volleyball games:
WVB @ Lambton Wednesday December 5, 2007 6pm
Georgian Tournament Fri. –Sat. January 4-5, 2008





CTI Music Ministries shared their passion for music and the gospel at a concert in the REC centre. Former Redeemer student Michelle Kikkert was among the vocalists!

"So, do you have a girlfriend yet?"

A Must-Read For All Those Who Plan on Surving Christmas Family Days

SCOTT FARILEY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Christmas holidays are the only time my family sees each other together, generally speaking. There's usually cordial and even unexpected visits throughout the year, of course, but full-blown family events are a rarity for both the Martin and Fairley clans. It's a little dysfunctional, but so am I. But it generally makes for a more cordial and pleasant affair for all involved, as a year of silence means there's no shortage of topics for conversation. However, the topic generally shifts into territory that I would rather not discuss: my love life and my post-university plans. And I know I'm not alone in this. However, having been both single and in university for the bulk of my university career, I've learned a few tricks to keep conversation out of those areas, or at least how to make the conversation more interesting than torturous.

1. Distraction

This it a pretty easy tactic, and technically all of these tactics are a distraction in some way, but a straight distraction is category unto itself. The ease of use of a straight distraction comes with the price of it not always working, however. Countering "So, do you have a girlfriend yet?" with "nice weather we're having" doesn't really work regardless of how you word it, but answering "did I tell you about this movie I saw last week? It was fantastic" provides more wiggle room and could lead into a healthy discourse on modern cinema. Any subject will do as a distraction, but the more finely tuned the distraction is to the interests of the interrogating relative will help make it more successful. It's also polite to discuss the interests of someone else and draw the topic away from yourself. Distraction is less effective when dodging the "what are you going to do after you graduate?" question, however. But it can be done. Of course, the perfect distraction for either question is the other question, but you and I both know that's an option.

2. Sarcasm

If done properly, dry sarcasm can both distract effectively and be a lot of fun. Answering either question with a deadpan, nonsensical response is a little risky, but your worst case scenario is generally getting a good laugh from the inquiring relative. Ideally, it will be interpreted as an honest response and they will be satisfied with it, and you satisfied with your sharp wit. But the middle ground here could include hurt feelings, so tread carefully. A nonsensical response is the least likely to offend and most likely to entertain. For example, responding to the career question with something like "I'd like to be an usher at the Air Canada Centre" adds a levity that an embittered "oh, wouldn't you just love to know" cannot. And I think I can speak for everyone when I say that I've always wanted to tell someone I want to be a performance artist.

3. Wordplay

If you own a dictionary or a thesaurus, this becomes a very easy way to answer the career question. Even the most mundane of job titles can sound exciting with the right words. I once worked as a mover. But why call myself a mover when I can call myself a personal capital migration technician? Use your own imagination, but suffice to say, a career as a professional textual anthropomorphic engineer certainly sounds exciting.

4. Make something up

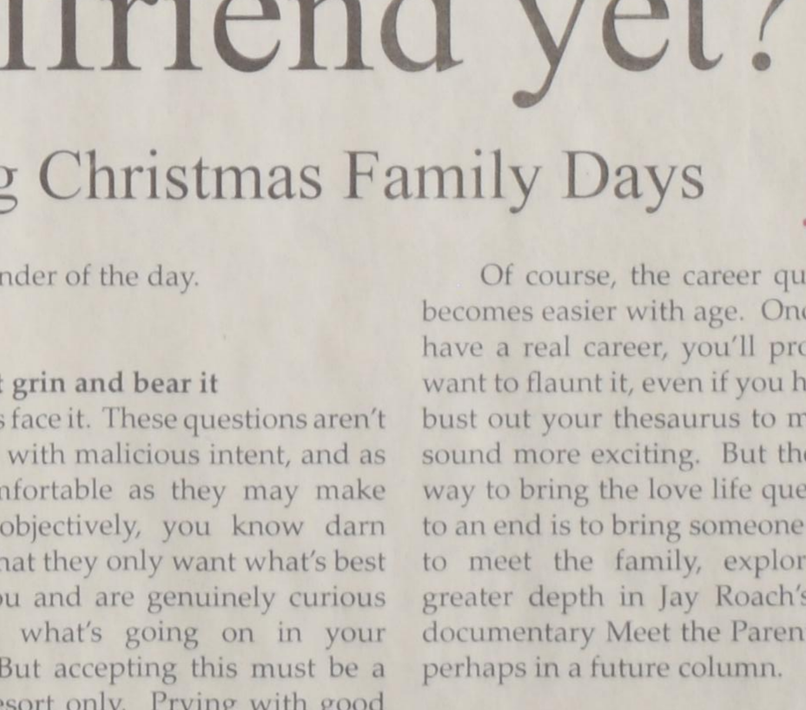
It's technically lying, yes, but it need not be malicious. For example, if you don't know what you want to do with yourself professionally, just think of something spectacularly reasonable. Professional wrestler is a good choice if you're athletic, and music critic is pretty interesting (not to mention easy). My personal favourite is Trophy Husband, as it covers both the dating and career questions in one shot. If my career goal is to marry someone independently wealthy and pursue my (generally low-paying or non-paying) hobbies with significant financial freedom, I would be well advised to keep my romantic options as open as possible, not to mention career options. It's also good for a laugh and unlikely to be taken seriously, which will satisfy their curiosity enough for the remainder of the day.

5. Just grin and bear it

Let's face it. These questions aren't asked with malicious intent, and as uncomfortable as they may make you, objectively, you know darn well that they only want what's best for you and are genuinely curious about what's going on in your life. But accepting this must be a last resort only. Prying with good intentions is still prying. Only cave in when you've exhausted your remaining options.

Of course, the career question becomes easier with age. Once you have a real career, you'll probably want to flaunt it, even if you have to bust out your thesaurus to make it sound more exciting. But the only way to bring the love life questions to an end is to bring someone home to meet the family, explored in greater depth in Jay Roach's 2000 documentary Meet the Parents and perhaps in a future column.

Until then, have a pleasant Christmas break and a happy new year.

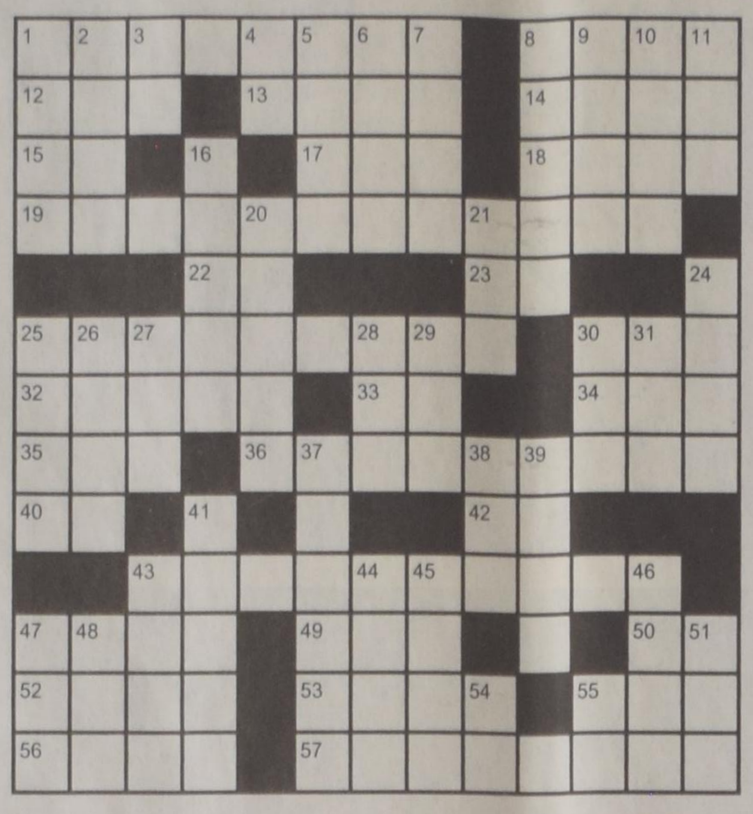


DIVERSIONS

http://crosswords.jitterjames.com

CROSSWORD STATION

THE NAME GAME



ACROSS

1. And so on
8. Top notch
12. Dynamic ___
13. Egg
14. Magnetic metal
15. E-mail preposition
17. Ambient music guru Brian
18. Hops or tobacco kiln
19. Wilson Pickett tune to ride to
22. Rosa, rosa, rosam, ros-
23. What "Holy Grail" knights say
25. She's good for a spin
30. High-tech med. procedure
32. Warning to José
33. Head of Canadian gov't.
34. On the way to worse
35. Badger
36. Prom queen loser?
40. Tin, periodically
42. __ pair
43. Curious cat?
47. From a great distance
49. Handheld IT device
50. Nowhere to go but ___
52. In D&D they come 20-sided
53. Otherwise
55. Unit of pressure
56. Let it stand, on proof
57. Give him his walking papers

DOWN

1. Dutch cheese
2. Ballet skirt
3. Together, pref.
4. Capital of ON, Canada
5. Integer exactly divisible by 2
6. Lateral ladder bar
7. "Crucify" musician Tori ___
8. Garlic mayonnaise à la provencale
9. From the mouth
10. Snoopy
11. Tolkien tree creature
16. What a good dog does
20. Fabled old-tyme moralist
21. ___ Arbor, MI
24. Pelt
25. Young chaps
26. Shakespeare's Severn tributary
27. Zag predecessor
28. Retreat
29. Pierre's pal
30. Gold standard for future CEO's?
31. Managed
37. Ran the track double-time
38. Old mare
39. Projects
41. "Raspberry ___"
43. Stride
44. Not busy
45. Starstruck U.S. agency
46. Giddy'up lil' doggie, north of 60
47. Promos
48. Healthy
51. ATM code
54. Hit NBC doc drama
55. Parma's dividing river

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

4		9				1		
	1	6		2	9	7		
	7		1		8		9	
2	3		7				5	
			6	3	5			
	6				2		4	7
	2		9		1		6	
		3	5	4		9	2	
		5				8		4

www.puzzles.li

	4		5					
		3		2				7
		2		8	7	6	1	
		1						5
	6	4		5		8	7	
9						4		
	1	7	3	6		2		
3				4		1		
					9		3	

www.puzzles.li

THE CROWN ONLINE

THE CROWN is now officially online. Our new site is easier to navigate, more user-friendly, and will feature special web-only features. You can now add your own comments to articles, and participate in web polls.
crown.redeemer.ca

Community Announcements

CALLING ALL GRADS OF TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, REXDALE!

On Saturday, May 3, 2008, TCS will be celebrating our 50th anniversary and we need YOU. If you are interested in playing in an alumni band at the evening > dinner celebration, please contact TCS as soon as possible. Visit us at timothycs.com and follow the links for anniversary and contact information.

All of us on staff at THE CROWN would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

This is our last issue of 2007, and we will return on January 16. If you are still interested in writing for us, or have any comments regarding the first six issues, please e-mail thecrown@redeemer.ca